JL, JW, HR

12/26/72

Dear Arch,

As he was about to leave for his Xmas vacation, Bud photocopied the bottom of the first page of my letter to you, omitting the rest and leaving enough room for a note than I know must have made him feel better. If he did not send you a copy, it was a polite and self-serving lecture about friendship, how easy friends are to lose and how hard to make.

He had no complain ab out the substance or what I said of either of you. I find it conspicuous that he attributed no single factual error to me. I am not surprised that he resorted to self-deception and I'll not be surprised if he distributes this childishness. His pose is something like that of the rapist who feigns tolerance of his victim's protests, folling nobody but himself and the like-minded.

Tragically, for all of us and for the future of our country, the realities are as I put them, not in this kind of self-demeaning posturing. His vacation at this time is but another example of this. He had no more to do with the writing of and information in the Ray habeas corpus. which gives us our first chance of taking an assassination case into court, than you did. OH, he talked big enough about it, convinced himself how important and brilliant he is, but the investigation and some of the legal thinking is mine and the drafting and the legal work is Lesar's. He knew that the time for response by the State was limited. So, he went off on vacation to be sure he would not be on hand, mind untroubled, pocket full and ego inflated. This is one way to meet obligations to a client and to history, one of showing true dedication to the work, and it is limned by his not paying Jim to stay around to cope with what the other side would do. Bud was hardly airborne before they made two moves, both of which, thanks to this great dedication of Bud's, were left to a young man who has yet to try his first case, yet to make his first appearance in court. Frankly, I don't think Ray suffered a bit for it, but my point is, I think, clear.

These, not the fictions with which you wealthy ones console yourselves, <u>are</u> the realities. What you do with your wealth is entirely your affairs. Where it becomes the proper interest of others is when you misuse it or your positions because of it. I did not ask you to invite me to Dallas to see if we could work together. That was your idea. It wasted time for me and my work. That you should not have done. You were under no obligation to send me word that you would finance the acquisition of the remainders of Frame-Up for me, but you did and in doing it lulled me into the false belief that this one problem had become one with which, desparately broke, I would have to cope in a real emergency situation. It became an enormous problem and a serious emotional strain, and of these we had too many without it. Although the books are legally mine and I was able to arrange the required down payment, I have yet to receive the first one after almost three months and many have been sold illegally and widely, advertised at a price at which it will be impossible for me to sell them - if I ever get them. Your part in this was wrong. You should not have deceived me and made these needless problems for me to contend with while I had other, urgent ones to meet at the same time, like borrowing money from a friend who would not need its immediate return just to prevent being wiped out entirely.

Bud did not have to take the Ray case when I asked him if he would if I could arrange it. But he did have the obligation to live up to the stipulated and agree-to conditions. They were unselfish and all in his interest, by the way, and if he had lived up to them he would not have pissed away most of the money he wasted. It <u>cost</u> him money to be less than honorable. He has never paid me a cent for any of the work I did for him and he has stuck me with some of the expenses. I have never asked him for pay, but I will not again work for him without it and if I do at all, it will be only where I feel an obligation, not generally. If you have heard anything to the cobtrary, I have never asked him to lend me money, either. I am not blessed with the wealth either of you has. But I do dispute the license both of you have asserted to waste money I don't have for me, or time. If money means more to you than honor, that is for you to decide.

I have answered Bud's childish sermon on what he describes as friendship, a condition that eliminates the need of enemies. He will receive it after his return from restoration of the great sapping of energy from doing nothing. I have made an extra copy if he does not return your "courtesy" to him. (What you did was to me an effort at mischief-making in which you conned yourself into thinking yourself pure.) If you want this carbon, I will send it after he has had a chance to readmit and, although I do not expect it, respond and send you a copy. I don't really care about this mischief-making. I do regret that you regard the holding of your wealth greater in importance than putting a fraction to good use.